



THE RALEIGH ARTS COMMISSION, established in 1977 as the official advisory body and advocate for the arts to the Raleigh City Council, proudly holds the distinction of being the first municipal arts commission created in North Carolina. Serving as the leading force to champion the arts with Raleigh citizens and their representatives, the Commission's myriad activities foster, support, and promote the arts in the Capital City.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

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BLOCK GALLERY • Municipal Building Art Exhibitions
222 West Hargett Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
919.996.3610 • www.raleighnc.gov/arts



BlockGallery
block 20(10) exhibiting dichotomies

home/ **JOURNEYS**

Kathy Brancato
Kenneth Eugene Peters
Cases feature artwork
by Mikel Robinson
April 8 - May 24, 2010



CURATORS' STATEMENT

home/journeys showcases the work of painters Kathy Brancato and Kenneth Eugene Peters and that of mixed media artist Mikel Robinson. Together these artists explore transforming mediations on what they define as the familiar landscape and how it is altered by elements like light and form.

Brancato's work captures the heart of each landscape vista presented, while exploring the idea of roads as a metaphor for our journeys in life. Light is the tool that Peters utilizes to examine the idea of architecture as a crossroads of safety, history and place, while Robinson's mixed media work studies the artist's own Southern heritage and the deep bond between land and the history of the South.

All of these works ask viewers to reexamine their own definitions of place.

-Hannah Costner, *Block Gallery Coordinator*

Images: Kathy Brancato, *Title*; Kenneth Eugene Peters, *House in the Desert*; Mikel Robinson, *Appalachia*.

home/ JOURNEYS

Kathy Brancato
Kenneth Eugene Peters
Cases feature artwork
by **Mikel Robinson**

April 8 - May 24, 2010

OPENING RECEPTION:
Thursday, April 8, 5-7 p.m.
featuring literary reading.



BlockGallery

*Connecting local artists to community through
ongoing exhibitions and public outreach since 1984.*



KATHY BRANCATO

I am reminded of a line from a poem by Joyce Kilmer: “Poems are made by fools like me, but only God can make a tree,” when I paint. I see all the beautiful landscapes and I do not try to repeat all of its beauty. So, I capture only the essence of what I see—the shapes, the forms, and especially the vibrant colors.

I have traveled much, but it is mostly the scenes near and familiar that I enjoy the most. I have many oil paintings with roadways and pathways. This is how I see life; going down the roads we choose. Sometimes you have to look far down the road, look past the curves, see the light at the end, or meander along the way. Sometimes we just have to stop and look at all the gorgeous colors, or as some would say, “Stop and smell the roses.”

I would hope people would see my work and say: “Yes, I have been there, too.”

Kathy Brancato grew up in New York, but has called Raleigh home for the past 18 years. She earned a B.A. in art from Elms College. After graduation, she apprenticed with Joseph Mack, a sculptor in New York, where she learned the fine art of casting. She subsequently taught elementary art for seven years, while at the same time overseeing a children’s ceramic jewelry business.

Now that her children are grown, Brancato has been able to devote her time to painting. She has been in juried shows in Raleigh, Greensboro, and Lake Gaston, and exhibited at the Mahler Gallery, Visual Art Exchange, Artspace, the Green Hill Center for North Carolina Art (Greensboro), Jordan Hall Arts Center (Cary), and New Elements Gallery (Wilmington). She will be teaching art to children through the outreach program at Artspace.



KATHY BRANCATO • oil on canvas
knbartworks@aol.com • www.kathybrancato.com

title	date	dimensions (inches)	price
<i>Around the Bend II</i>		24 x 36	\$930
<i>Color Show</i>		36 x 24	\$930
<i>Color Light</i>		36 x 22	\$855
<i>Complimentary II</i>		21 x 50	\$1334
<i>Down a Ways</i>		18 x 40	\$777
<i>Far</i>		20 x 40	\$864
<i>Franklin</i>		15 x 36	\$583
<i>Getting Ready</i>		18 x 40	\$777
<i>In a Moment II</i>		8 x 10	\$125
<i>In a Moment</i>		8 x 10	\$125
<i>Kanata Afternoon</i>		20 x 24	\$568
<i>Last Call</i>		8 x 10	\$125
<i>Let There Be Light II</i>		40 x 18	\$777
<i>Let There Be Light</i>		48 x 36	\$1866
<i>Morning Drive</i>		24 x 36	\$930
<i>Morning Rise</i>		20 x 24	\$518
<i>Ninety Six</i>		8 x 32	\$276
<i>O Happy Day</i>		18 x 28	\$544
<i>Quarter Past Noon</i>		24 x 36	\$930
<i>Ride Home</i>		20 x 16	\$395
<i>Shadows</i>		9 x 32	\$345
<i>Shining Path</i>		20 x 16	\$395
<i>When Sand</i>		34 x 29	\$1064

Images: *Title*, opposite page; *Title*, left.



KENNETH EUGENE PETERS

My art has a firm foundation in the American realist tradition. I am most attracted to subject matter that initially appears straightforward but, upon closer inspection, encourages the viewer to bring his or her own interpretation to the piece.

As *home/journeys* demonstrates, I am fascinated with architecture and the importance it plays in our lives. Structures do not just provide shelter; they create a strong sense of place and their presence tangibly marks the passage of time. Form and light play key roles in my architectural works. The transient nature of light, particularly at sundown, intrigues me. More than any other element, light determines the mood or atmosphere within a piece.

Artists whom I admire (and feel influenced by) include Thomas Cole, Edvard Munch, Charles Burchfield, Rockwell Kent, Fairfield Porter, April Gornik and Tinam Valk.



Kenneth Eugene Peters was born in Laurel, Maryland. After initially studying architecture in college, he dropped out of school for two years to work full-time for a suburban Maryland architectural firm. Peters returned to the University of Maryland, earning a B.A. in art history and studio art in 1985, and a master’s degree in legal and ethical studies from the University of Baltimore in 1995.

A practicing visual artist who maintains a studio in his West Raleigh home, Peters has had recent solo exhibitions at the Jordan Hall Arts Center (Cary), the Burke County Arts Council (Morganton), and the Horace Williams House (Chapel Hill). He is a member of Visual Art Exchange and currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Friends of the Gregg Museum of Art and Design at N.C. State University.



Kenneth Eugene Peters • oil on canvas
kennetheugenepeters@yahoo.com • www.kennetheugenepeters.com

title	date	dimensions (inches)	price
<i>Aqueduct Ruins</i>	2007	30 x 40	\$1550
<i>Biltmore</i>	2009	28 x 34	\$1380
<i>Biltmore in Winter</i>	2009	24 x 30	\$950
<i>Chateau Marmont</i>	2008	24 x 30	\$950
<i>House in the Desert</i>	2009	30 x 40	\$1730
<i>House on Washington Street</i>	2009	24 x 30	\$950
<i>House With Red Curtains</i>	2006	24 x 36	\$1130
<i>Last Light</i>	2009	30 x 40	\$1550
<i>Lights After Midnight</i>	2010	20 x 32	\$950
<i>Main Street</i>	2009	36 x 48	NFS
<i>Remains of the Day</i>	2010	26 x 40	\$1510
<i>Shadows at Dusk</i>	2009	36 x 48	\$2210
<i>South on Allegany</i>	2009	24 x 30	\$950
<i>Sundown in Asheville</i>	2007	24 x 36	\$1130
<i>The Blue House</i>	2009	24 x 30	\$950
<i>Twilight at Glanum</i>	2007	30 x 40	\$1550
<i>Windows at Night</i>	2010	18 x 24	\$650
<i>Victorians at Sunrise</i>	2009	24 x 36	\$1130



Images: *House in the Desert*, opposite page; *Biltmore*, left.

MIKEL ROBINSON

mrobinsonstudio@gmail.com • 2nd floor cases

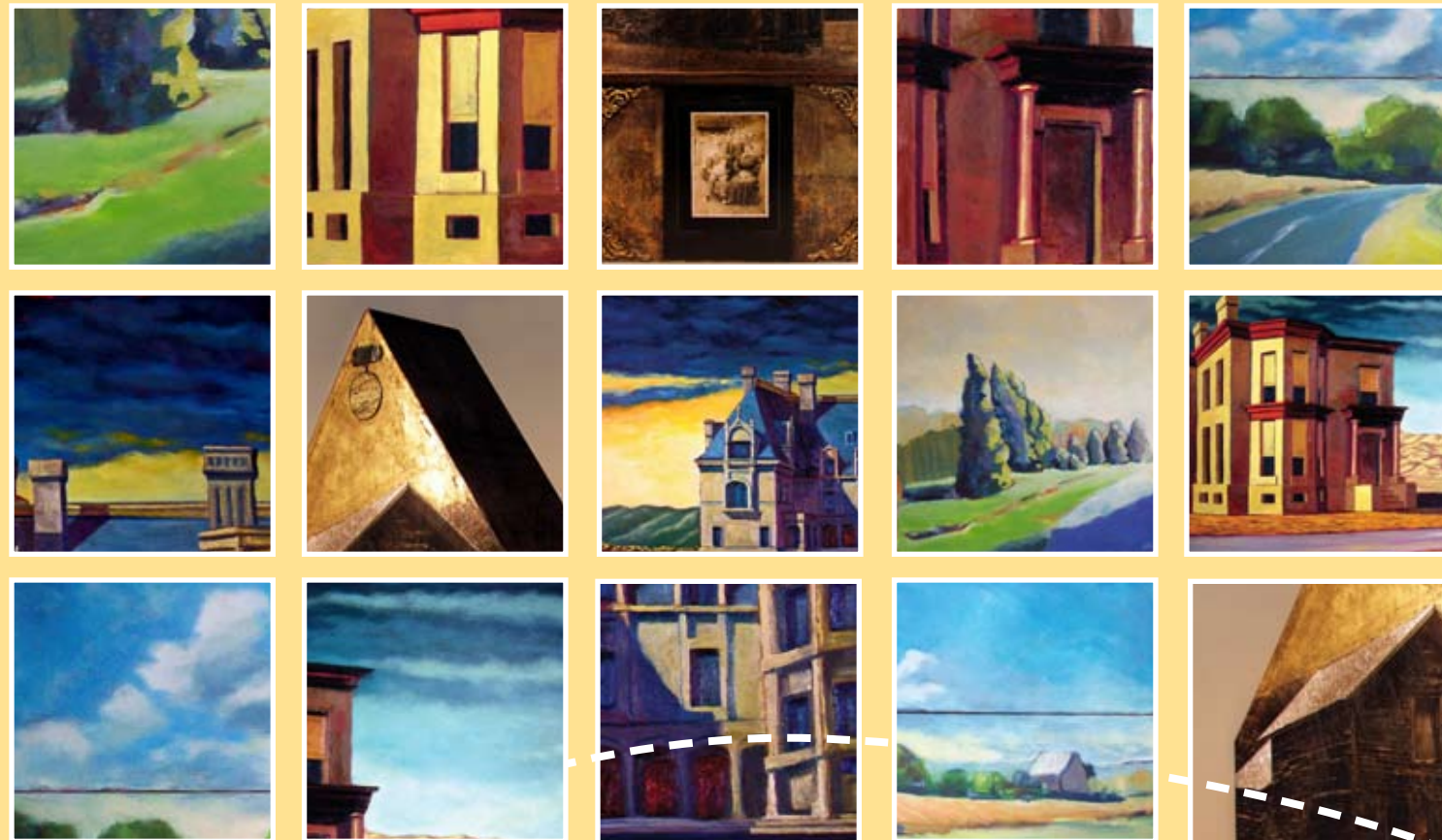
The South is the only home I've ever known. My ancestors arrived and settled in North Carolina well over 300 years ago. I grew up knowing the South is a place where history and myth collide, where identity has long been tied to the land—an entire culture was birthed beneath these sacred stones and hidden in these fertile fields. For me, this new work is a return to those roots. It is a visual journey of my heritage, my past, and early artistic influences. Though not exclusively autobiographical, this work tells the story of the hidden South that can still be found right out in the open. It is a place I know well.



Mikel Robinson is a self-trained North Carolina artist who currently resides in Durham. For the past ten years, his work has centered on the use of light, mixed media, and turn-of-the century photography. Heavily influenced by the Outsider art movement, and prominent conceptual artists such as Christian Boltanski, Robinson's work is often abstract in nature and hard to classify. Recent exhibitions include the Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC; Artspace, Raleigh, NC; SUMZ Brockport, Brockport, NY; Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA; and Graceland University, Lamoni, IA.



Image: *Appalachia*.



block gallery 20(10) EXHIBITING DICHOTOMIES

dual/focus, February 4 - March 22, 2010
Artists: Jason Arthurs, Gabriella Corter, Mary Shannon Johnstone, Judy Jones, Mary Kay Kennedy, Julie Niskanen, Alison Overton, Kristianne Ripple, Susan Soper. Cases feature art by Tricia McKellar.
Guest Curators: Rachel Berry + Sarah Powers
Opening reception featuring performance by Starmount: Thursday, February 4, 5-7 p.m.

home/journeys, April 8 - May 24, 2010
Artists: Kathy Brancato, Kenneth Eugene Peters. Cases features art by Mikel Robinson.
Opening reception featuring literary reading: Thursday, April 8, 5-7 p.m.

earth/sky, June 3 - July 26, 2010
Artists: Gene Furr, Anna Podris. Cases features art by Bill Wallace.
Opening reception featuring dance performance: Thursday, June 3, 5-7 p.m.

over/under, August 5 - September 20, 2010
Artists: Eduardo Lapetina, Kristan Five Skinner. Cases features art by Maureen McGregor.
Opening reception featuring jazz music: Thursday, August 5, 5-7 p.m.

rew/ffwd (rewind/fast forward), September 30 - November 22, 2010
Artists: Georges Le Chevallier, Brian Gonzales, Garrett Scales. Cases features a display by NCSU Textile and Apparel Technology and Management students.
Opening reception featuring live music: Thursday, September 30, 5-7 p.m.

The 8th National Arts Program Exhibition, December 2, 2010 - January 17, 2011
Celebrating artwork by City of Raleigh and Wake County employees and their families, co-sponsored by the Raleigh Arts Commission and the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County.
Opening reception featuring bluegrass music: Thursday, December 2, 5-7 p.m.

IMAGE LITERARY READING

LITERARY READING INFO

ARTS COMMISSION STAFF

- June Guralnick
Executive Director
- Belva Parker
Arts Program Coordinator
- Carol Mallette
Administrative Assistant
- Gerald Bolas*
Public Art Coordinator
- Hannah Costner*
Block Gallery Coordinator
- Marie Smith*
Database Assistant
- *Part-time

BLOCK GALLERY
For 26 years, the Block Gallery has served as a pivotal exhibition space in the City of Raleigh, connecting local artists to community through ongoing exhibitions and public outreach. Managed by the Raleigh Arts Commission, the gallery was dedicated in 2006 to honor community leader Miriam Preston Block. Located in downtown Raleigh’s municipal building at 222 West Hargett Street, the gallery is open 8:30 a.m. – 5:15 p.m., Monday through Friday (closed on city holidays).

Gallery information, dates and times are subject to change.